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(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madras moved the Government of India in the Ministry of Defence for allotment of a portion of Island Ground for the construction of International Students Hostel?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN: Sir, are the Government aware that Shri K. Raghuramiah, Minister of State in the Union stated so and is it the Madras Government that moved the Government of India for allotment of a portion of the Island Ground ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, I have answered " No ", to question (*b*).

Dilapidated houses

* 253 *Q*.—SRI R. VENKATACHALAM (on behalf of SRI A. K. Thangavel Mudaliar): Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to take over the dilapidated houses of those persons who have migrated from rural parts and to construct houses in those sites for the houseless agriculturists; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Panchayat elections

* 254 *Q*.—SRI R. VENKATACHALAM: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to postpone the Panchayat elections in the State; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor and when the Government propose to conduct the Panchayat elections ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (*a*) & (*b*) It has since been decided to postpone the elections to all local bodies.

District Headquarters Hospitals

* 255 *Q*.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of District Headquarters Hospitals that are having ambulance vans; and

(*b*) the number of vans used by each such hospital ?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: (*a*) Six.

(*b*) One.